

**STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
BOARD MEETING SESSION - DIVISION OF WATER QUALITY
SEPTEMBER 2, 2008**

ITEM 6

SUBJECT

CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OR DESIGNEE TO APPLY FOR, ACCEPT, AND/OR AMEND A FEDERAL CLEAN WATER ACT SECTION 205(j) GRANT

DISCUSSION

Section 205(j) of the federal Clean Water Act (CWA) authorizes states to reserve up to one percent of their annual Title II Clean Water Construction Grant allocation for water quality management planning activities. Beginning in Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 1989, CWA section 604(b) supplemented CWA section 205(j)(2) to maintain such funding.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) has indicated that a preliminary grant total of \$491,593 will be available in FFY 2008 for funding the water quality management planning programs from CWA section 604(b), of which 40 percent is typically passed through to local agencies for projects. The State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) has been granted a waiver from the pass-through requirement from U.S. EPA, the federal granting agency, and will use the entire 205(j) grant to support its overall water quality planning program in FFY 2008. Many water quality planning activities administered by the State Water Board have been severely under-supported. These include refinement of designated beneficial uses of the State's waters, establishment of sound water quality objectives to protect those uses, and other important activities related to the Division of Water Quality's workload associated with developing and processing Total Maximum Daily Loads. Staff resources from the 205(j) grant will contribute significantly to meeting these needs.

POLICY ISSUE

Should the State Water Board apply for, accept and/or amend a FFY 2008 Phase 22 205(j) grant?

FISCAL IMPACT

Existing Basin Planning Program budget authority is currently adequate to accommodate the anticipated grant.

REGIONAL WATER BOARD IMPACT

None

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the State Water Board:

1. Authorizes the Executive Director or designee to apply for and accept the FFY 2008 Phase 22 205(j) water quality management planning grant in an amount not to exceed \$600,000.
2. Authorizes the Executive Director or designee to approve the final Phase 22 water quality management planning workplans.
3. Authorizes the issuance of in-kind services with U.S. EPA and amendments in accordance with the workplans to implement projects subject to the availability of federal funding.

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STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 2008-

AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OR DESIGNEE TO
APPLY FOR, ACCEPT, AND/OR AMEND
A FEDERAL CLEAN WATER ACT SECTION 205(j) GRANT

WHEREAS:

1. Section 205(j) of the federal Clean Water Act (CWA) authorizes states to reserve up to one percent of their annual Title II Clean Water Construction Grant allocation for water quality management planning activities. Beginning in Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 1989, CWA section 604(b) supplemented CWA section 205(j)(2) to maintain such funding.
2. A total grant not to exceed \$600,000 will be available in FFY 2008 for funding the water quality management planning program from CWA section 604(b), of which 40 percent is typically passed through to local agencies for projects.
3. The State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) has been granted a waiver from the pass-through requirement from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA), the federal granting agency, and will use the entire 205(j) grant to support its overall water quality planning program in FFY 2008.
4. Many water quality planning activities administered by the State Water Board have been severely under-supported. These include refinement of designated beneficial uses of the State's waters, establishment of sound water quality objectives to protect those uses, and other important activities related to the Division of Water Quality's workload associated with developing and processing Total Maximum Daily Loads.
5. Staff resources from the 205(j) grant, will contribute significantly to meeting these needs.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The State Water Board:

1. Authorizes the Executive Director or designee to apply for and accept the FFY 2008 Phase 22 205(j) water quality management planning grant in an amount not to exceed \$600,000.
2. Authorizes the Executive Director or designee to approve the final Phase 22 water quality management planning workplans.

D R A F T

3. Authorizes the issuance of in-kind services with U.S. EPA and amendments in accordance with the workplans to implement projects subject to the availability of federal funding.

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned, Clerk to the Board, does hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a resolution duly and regularly adopted at a meeting of the State Water Resources Control Board held on September 2, 2008.

Jeanine Townsend
Clerk to the Board